

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-07 ACDA-19 EB-11 DRC-01 /139 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5245

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2123

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP, NL, NATO

SUBJECT: DRC APRIL 18 REVIEW OF NATO FORCE PROPOSALS/GOALS-
NETHERLANDS

REF: A. CRC/WP(74)1(REVISED) (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 1751

1. DRC ON APRIL 18 REVIEWED WITHOUT MAKING ANY SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES, REVISED COUNTRY CHAPTER ON NETHERLANDS 1975-1980
DRAFT FORCE GOALS (DRC/WP(74)1(REV), POUCHED TO WASHINGTON).
CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS AND NETHERLANDS REP IDENTIFIED THE PROPOSALS
ON WHICH THE DUTCH AUTHORITIES COULD NOT TAKE A POSITION UNTIL
THE NEW DEFENSE WHITE PAPER IS PUBLISHED (SEE PARA 23 OF
WP(74)1(REV)). THE PROPOSALS ARE: 1L01A, 1L05C, 1L05D, 1L06,
1L17, 1L25, 2M01, 2M07, 3M15, 1A01, 1A02, 1A03, AND 1A20.

2. SHAPE REP MADE AN EFFORT TO REINCARNATE IN ITS ENTIRETY
PROPOSAL 1A19 ON AUTOMATIC DATA LINKS FOR HAWK BATTALIONS
(US PRIORITY PROPOSAL), WHICH DRC REVISED AT ITS MARCH 28
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MEETING. SHAPE REP STRESSED THAT THE NETHERLANDS IS THE
ONLY CENTRAL REGION COUNTRY NOT MEETING OR PLANNING TO MEET
ACE STANDARDS IN THIS AREA. NETHERLANDS REP RECALLED THAT
HIS AUTHORITIES OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS

AND APPARENTLY SHAPE AND THE NETHERLANDS STILL HELD DIVERGENT TECHNICAL VIEWS. FOLLOWING LENGTHY DISCUSSION, DRC DECIDED TO RETAIN THE ORIGINAL SHAPE FORCE PROPOSAL BUT WITH INTRODUCTORY LANGUAGE ALONG THE LINES OF "CONSIDER FURTHER WITH SHAPE THE REQUIREMENT FOR AND FEASIBILITY OF PROCURING, ETC."

3. DRC ADDED, AS FOR ALL COUNTRIES, PARA ON MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF DRC REVISIONS TO THE FORCE PROPOSAL PACKAGE. PARA FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT.

THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOGNIZES THAT, COMPARED WITH THE FORCE PROPOSAL RECOMMENDED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, THE DRAFT FORCE GOALS THEY ARE NOW RECOMMENDING (I.E. INCLUDING THOSE ON WHICH THE NETHERLANDS AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION) REPRESENT SOME REDUCTION IN THE CAPABILITY CALLED FOR FROM THE NETHERLANDS. IN PARTICULAR, PROPOSALS CALLING FOR A NUCLEAR POWERED SUBMARINE AND AN ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SHIP FOR SAACLANT HAVE BEEN DELETED AND THE NEED FOR AN IMPORVED HAWK RADAR, COMMUNICATION AND DATA LINK FACILITIES HAVE BEEN REFERRED FOR FURTHER STUDY. ADDITIONALLY, TARGET DATES HAVE BEEN PUT BACK FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A HELICOPTER ANTI-ARMOR CAPABILITY, THE PROVISION OF A MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER BATTALION, REPLACEMENT OF THE 105 MM HOWIZTERS BY 155MM HOWIZTERS AND THE PROVISION OF THE THRID OF 3 NEW DDG'S. ON THE WHOLE, HOWEVER, THEY BELIEVE THAT THE MAIN THRUST OF THE FORCE PROPOSALS WILL HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED.

END TEXT.

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